

Message Text

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PAGE 01 TOKYO 08220 290826 Z

45

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CEQ-02 EPA-04 SCEM-02 AID-20 EB-11

NSC-10 RSC-01 CIEP-02 TRSE-00 SS-15 STR-08 OMB-01

CEA-02 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-03 PRS-01 USIA-12

SIL-01 AGR-20 COME-00 DOTE-00 INT-08 LAB-06 RSR-01

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R 290745 Z JUN 73

FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4917

C O N F I D E N T I A L TOKYO 8220

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ENRG OCON JA

SUBJ: FOLLOW- UP TO ENERGY CONSULTATIONS AT ECONCOM IX

REF: (A) STATE 124169; (B) TOKYO 7235; (C) STATE 073048

SUMMARY: FONOFF DISPLAYING INTEREST IN FOLLOWING UP
ECONCOM IX ENERGY DISCUSSIONS WITH SOME SORT CONTINUING
CONSULTATION ARRANGEMENT. FONOFF DESIRES AVOID
ESTABLISHMENT OF FORMAL MECHANISM FOR GENERAL DISCUSSIONS
BUT APPEARS INFORMALLY ACCEPT DESIRABILITY OF MORE
FORMAL ARRANGEMENT FOR ANY FUTURE JOINT COOPERATION IN
ENERGY R & D. IF WASHINGTON HAS ANY PARTICULAR THOUGHTS
ON HOW EMBASSY SHOULD DEAL WITH SUBJECT, PLEASE ADVISE
PROMPTLY. END SUMMARY.

1. AT LATEST REGULAR LUNCHEON SESSION JUNE 27, DEPUTY
FOREIGN VICE MINISTER TSURUMI WONDERED IF AMBASSADOR
AND ECON/ MIN HAD GIVEN ANY THOUGHT TO POSSIBLE FOLLOW-
UP TO ECONCOM IX ENERGY DISCUSSIONS. ECON/ MIN REPLIED
THAT US WAS THINKING OF RAISING SUBJECT COOPERATION
IN ENERGY R& D AT CONFERENCE AND THAT IF IDEA APPROVED
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PAGE 02 TOKYO 08220 290826 Z

AT ECONCOM, FOLLOW- UP WOULD PROBABLY REQUIRE SOME SORT OF ORGANIZATIONAL FRAMEWORK. THOUGHT COULD BE GIVEN TO USE OF EXISTING COOPERATIVE ARRANGEMENTS OR DORMATION OF A NEW ONE. ECON/ MIN STATED HE COULD SEE ADVANTAGES AND DISADVANTAGES TO BOTH APPROACHES, E. G., PRESENT SCIENTIFIC COOPERATIVE PROGRAM (UJNR) NOT ENTIRELY EFFECTIVE AND WE MIGHT WISH CONSIDER WHETHER NEW TASKS WOULD HELP REVITALIZE PRESENT UJNR ENERGY R & D PROGRAM OR WHETHER IT WOULD BE BETTER TO START AFRESH.

2. FURTHER CONVERSATION MADE CLEAR TSURUMI WAS THINKING IN BROADER TERMS THAN ONLY ENERGY R & D COOPERATION. HE APPEARED AGREE THAT R & D COOPERATION WOULD REQUIRE SOME SORT OF FORMAL ORGANIZATIONAL FRAMEWORK BUT INDICATED DESIRE THAT ANY FOLLOW- UP ON GENERAL SUBJECT ENERGY CONSULTATION, E. G., RE JOINT DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS, BE ON AN INFORMAL BASIS. ONE POSSIBILITY CONTEMPLATED WAS EXTENSION OF FRAMEWORK OF US- JAPAN TRADE TALKS, IN WHICH TSURUMI IS GOJ CHAIRMAN. (THIS FORMAT ATTRACTIVE TO TSURUMI SINCE IT WOULD ENSURE THAT FONOFF WOULD BE GOJ SPOKESMAN AND THUS HELP BUTTRESS FONOFF ROLE IN ITS BUREAUCRATIC STRUGGLE WITH MITI RE DETERMINATION JAPANESE ENERGY POLICY.)

3. DRAWING ON STATE' S 073048, ECON/ MIN STATED US ALSO WOULD NOT WISH ESTABLISH ANY FORMAL MECHANISM FOR CONSULTATION BUT WOULD LIKELY HAVE NO OBJECTION TO SOME FORUM THAT WOULD PERMIT GOVERNMENT- TO- GOVERNMENT PERIODIC AD HOC CONSULTATION.

4. EMBASSY WOULD APPRECIATE ANY FURTHER WASHINGTON REACTION TO IDEA POSSIBILITY FOLLOW- UP ECONCOM IX ENERGY DISCUSSIONS IN FIELD R & D AND IN AREA MORE GENERAL CONSULTATIONS.
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